SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b) The names of the companies which have been given licences to manufacture colour TV sets and number of TV sets manufactured by these companies during the year 1985, 1986 and 1987 till date are given in the Annexure. [*See* Appendix CXLIV, Annexure No. 123.]

2807. [*Transferred to the 7th December, 1987.*]

Death of a Sq. Ldr. and a Fl. Lt. in Aircarsh

2808. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Sq Ldr. and a Fl. Lt. were killed in an IAF trainee aircraft crash near Narsapur in Medak District in the last four months;

(b) whether it is also a fact that an IAF fighter plane crashed near Samund, 40 Kms from Jodhpur during the same period; and

(c) whether any court of enquiry has been ordered into the above crashes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

Non Proliferation Treaty with Pakistan

2809. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a lot of pressure has been exercised by out side powers to induce Indian Government to sign the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty with Pakistan in recent days;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) the details of the Indian position in this regard with particular reference to the disarmament agreement between super powers that took place recently and the approach of other smaller nuclear powers like Pakistan, China, France, Israel, South Africa, Argentina, Brazil etc. towards this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b) The United States of America has recently reiterated its earlier suggestion that India should sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)

(c) India is opposed to the NPT which is discriminatory in nature. As regards the recent agreement between the two super powers on the question of Intermediate Nuclear Forces (INF), India has welcomed it as a first step towards the goal of complete elimination of nuclear weapons.

The INF Agreement has been welcomed by most countries.

Advanced Light Helicopter

2810. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the progress in the programme of manufacturing Advanced Light Helicopters;

(b) when is the production of this helicopter likely to commence; and

(c) whether Westland is associated in any way with the production of the ALH?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) After the completion of milestones of Priliminary Design Configuration Freeze Critical Components Design and Definition of Long Lead Items, the Detail Design of basic Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) as well as of its various systems is in progress.

(b) The production of ALH is likely to commence in the early 1990s.

(c) No, Sir. M/s. Westland, U.K. have however. submitted a proposal for the design and development of an item for use in the ALH. This will be evaluated alongwith quotations received from other sources.

Selection of IAS Officers for Tribal Areas

2811. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take any steps to select IAS officers for posting in tribal areas who may have special understanding of their problems and train them for this purpose; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir. because appointment of IAS officers to posts under the State Governments including those in tribal areas, is the exclusive concern of the State Governments and such postings do not come under the purview of the Government of India.

(b) Does not arise.

Manufacture of Piper-Cheyenne—400 Aircraft

2812. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to manufacture a light aircraft, Piper Cheyenne—400. in collaboration with a US Corporation; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) whether a high powered deligation of the American Corporation recently visited India; if so, what are the details of discussions held?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) At present there is no proposal under the consideration of the Government for the manufacturing of such an aircraft. M|s Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. (HAL) are, however, presently exploring the feasibility and viability' of the production of light executive aircraft. An aircraft under consideration is "Cheyenne—400 LS" of M|s Piper Aircraft Corporation USA In this connection, a team of officials from the above firm visited HAL in November 1987 for preliminary discussions.

Accommodation Facilities for the Central Government Employees welfare Associations

2813. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government Employees Welfare Associations in the various Government localities in Delhi are not ciations have not been provided any able to function properly as the associations have not been provided any accommodation; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to provide at least one room to each of such associations to function in an effective manner?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI): (a) and (b) The Central Govt. Employees Welfare Associations recognised by this Department in various Government localities are functioning properly. In so far as accommodation is concerned, Community Centres have been provided in many Government Residential colonies. These centres serve as focal points for Welfare activities. Many more Centres are under constructions.